

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-5, 7-11 and 13-15 are pending in this application, of which claims 1, 9 and 11 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Zigler (previously applied) in view of U.S. Patent 4,139,790 to Steen (hereinafter “Steen”).

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As noted in Applicants’ previous response filed December 11, 2002, Zigler discloses a single phase alternating current induction type electric motor designed for use in hermetically sealed compressors. A conventional squirrel cage rotor 21 suitably journaled for rotation within a conventional slotted stator core 22 is provided.

Steen discloses a permanent magnet rotor for a permanent magnet synchronous-run induction-state motor. The rotor has Rare Earth magnets disposed in apertures in unitary laminations and parallel to a tangent to the shaft. The magnets are magnetized outwardly so that the direct flux of the magnets is additive to the direct axis flux of the stator at no load. The rotor has a squirrel cage winding and the ends of each magnet aperture are in communication through a flux barrier space to the inner end of an adjacent conductor bar aperture of the squirrel cage winding.

Contrary to the Examiner’s assertion, neither of the cited references teaches, mentions or suggests a “skewed structure” for the squirrel-cage secondary conductor of the rotor, as recited in claims 5 and 11, which respectfully depend from claims 1 and 9, or that the “skew pitch is set to more than 0, and 1.5 slot pitches or less”, as recited in claim 11.

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Accordingly, claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite the skewed structure for the squirrel-cage secondary conductor.

Thus, the 35 USC §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-5, 7-11 and 13-15, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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